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THE WEB OF DESTINY

A lecture given at Serenity Spiritualist Church on November 5, 1972 through the Mediumship of Richard P. Goodwin

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THE WEB OF DESTINY

A lecture given at Serenity Spiritualist Church on November 5, 1972 through the Mediumship of Richard P. Goodwin

Now I believe I'm scheduled for a lecture this morning entitled "The Web of Destiny." These topics are brought to me by my teacher from this other dimension, and I myself am not aware of what the spirit may feel fit to speak on, but I always ask that it may be as short as possible, for I spent many years of my life listening to what they call lectures that go on and on and on for hours and hours My mother told me many years ago, "You know Richard, if you can't reach a person in 20 or 30 minutes it's a pretty sure thing that your not about to, so why waste all the energy." So in speaking this morning on "The Web of Destiny," we're speaking of the things that we are weaving that bind us to certain patterns and to certain expressions.

Many teachers have spoken on desire and the so-called pleasure ground of the senses. Many philosophies have taught the annihilation of desire, it's suppression. This association has attempted to bring to mankind a bit different understanding concerning desire. What is it that we mean by that word? Do we mean by the word desire God expressing in a certain way that is satisfactory to our mind and to our brain? If we mean by that word desire that, then to annihilate or to suppress it is to deny the divinity, the birthright of our own soul and our own spirit.

We have tried to teach in this

association liberty under law and not license. When we attempt to educate desire we are simply directing it through another level of awareness, another channel. When we attempt to suppress or to annihilate it, what we're doing in truth is denving our own divinity. Remember, my good friends, when the love of the formless becomes the love of the form we are lost in a sea of creation. We have at every moment a divine choice. We may choose to fulfill the desires that entertain our thoughts and become bound by them or we may choose to entertain the desires of our mind and be freed by them. It is when we recognize and realize that God and God alone is in back of every thought, every act and every deed that so-called evil and socalled bad is nothing more or less than undeveloped good. When we realize that we will pause to think and in that pausing, in that moment, we will know beyond a shadow of any doubt that we in truth are free. When we accept with our mind that the fulfillment of desire is God's fulfillment and not our brain's, then we will be free and we will not experience the turmoil, the upset of the so-called brain Balance is the teachings from on high, not imprisionment into either the so-called pleasure ground of the senses or imprisionment into false security. When desire expresses itself it is energy, it is love, it is God. But when our mind thinks that we and we alone are

dependent upon it's fulfillment, that we and we alone must have what we want when we want and how we want it. That thinking, my good friends, is what binds us to the shackles of creation.

The topic chosen was entitled "The Web of Destiny," and we, my good friends, are the spiders that are weaving those webs. Remember that a spider can only traverse the web that it has woven, the soul can only express on the patterns of thought that man has chosen to express upon. Broaden your horizons and you will see a new life, a new way, a greater freedom, a greater expression of your own divinity. It is when through error of thought we give power to people, to places, to things, that, my dear friends, is when the web that we have woven is limited and blinding. It has been stated to our students before that when desire is the predominant thought in the mind reason cannot see. Why is that so? It all has to do with energy. It has to do with our energy flowing along one particular thought pattern. No matter what our thought may be, if it is thought of creation or form it can and does ofttimes blind us. When these thoughts of creation of our mind, when they are balanced with what is known as our soul faculties, with reason, with duty, with gratitude, with patience, with knowledge and assurance, when those senses or functions are brought into balance with those soul faculties, man indeed is freed. Man indeed finds before his very eyes his own divinity. Who is so illumined to know what thoughts are right for you? Who is so illumined to tell a man what thoughts are right for him? Right and wrong is ever relative

to our understanding God is not a judge and God does not bind or enslave the souls.

Our soul, our divinity may have wandered from it's home, from it's source, but that that wanders from a thing in it's very wandering is already on it's way back home. Because one may be a little greater distance from his home than another may be does not grant to anyone the right to judge the distance. It is the tendency of the mind to judge, to declare the reason that it does those things is because of it's own insecurity. So many of us in this world of expression are so insecure. We can garner all of the wealth the world has to offer but it does not grant us security because by the very nature of creation which is duality. which is positive and negative, which is loss and gain, again and again on the wheel of delusion of form there is no security. As long as our minds look without to find security, that's just as long as we are ever going to be insecure. Security, my good friends, is when we find God and that we find inside ourselves. When we find this thing they call God, when we find it we shall know it, we won't have to believe it because we will know it. Then no matter what happens in the world of creation, you will move through time and be not moved by it. For having found your true birthright, you will become what you have found, for you have always been it and have only wandered from it. Thank you.

If there are any questions of a spiritual nature, you may feel free to ask them at this time. If there are no questions, as I said once months ago that means I've had a merit system that's not too bad, for I will pause to rest.

Book Review

"ON THE EDGE OF THE ETHERIC" by Arthur Findlay - Psychic Press, Ltd., London Reviewed by Anne Philbert

The alternate title of this book "or Survival after Death Scientifically Explained" provides the clue to Findlay's book. Author and Spiritualist Findlay writes about survival after death in a most simple and clear way. His style intrigues the reader in a manner that keeps him following along speedily.

The book is composed of two parts. The first part establishes the theory of the etheric world. Findlay discusses the "unseen" etheric world scientifically, develops for the reader the differentiation between physical matter and etheric substance. It is very convincingly developed, and probably most fascinating to those of us who may have never considered the idea that there is no death!

In the second half of the book, Findlay relates his personal experiences with the etheric world. He describes his twelve years of regular seances with Mr. John Campbell Sloan Mr. Sloan was a direct voice medium whom Findlay distinguishes as the most special type of medium.

Sloan's Indian control "Whitey" comes through with what life is like

in the etheric world. During Findlay's many nights of instruction in the seances, such questions as, "What is contained in what we call space?"; "Is your world, then a real and tangible world?"; "Do we always retain our individuality?" are answered.

If you are interested in getting a clear understanding of how survival after death is scientifically proven, in reading the intimate personal story of Findlay's impression of a great medium, and in getting a very detailed description of what takes place at a seance, you will thoroughly enjoy this book. I recommend it for Spiritualists and for those who are not, but perhaps especially for those who have lost loved ones and grieve for them.

"On the Edge of the Etheric" is part of a Trilogy. The second volume, "The Rock of Truth" tells of the etheric duplicate of men's and women's physical bodies and their existence after death. "The Unfolding Universe," the last of the three, describes how, as the mind advances and develops, happiness increases and desires are more easily gratified—the religion and philosophy of Spiritualism!

THE JOY OF INNOCENCE

by Tiffany O'Hara

I named my two year old niece Liberty Blithe, freedom and happiness, the nicest things you could ever wish anyone starting out in life. Sometimes I call her Liber-tyke or Liber-tot and when she started walking, I called her Liber-toddler.

Once I took her to a luau with a pink Hybiscus on top of her head and her white-diapered backside poking through the sheaves of her miniature grass skirt: Liber-tiki.

Since she had learned to walk at 6 months and knew every letter of the alphabet when she was a little older than a year, I wondered if at age 2 she was capable of elementary reasoning. A Saturday, not too long ago, I took her aside in the toy-cluttered living room of my sister's house and explained to her why she was expected to mind her mother. I said very slowly, "Now Grandma is the boss of Mommy and me because she is our mommy and Mommy is the boss of Liberty because she is Liberty's mommy and because Liberty owns the two little puppies, she is the boss of the dogs." Eyes like great black olives rolled up at me and I wondered how much she understood

The next day was Sunday and

Liberty went into her mother's makeup drawer, which is one of the biggest "no-no's" in her young life. My sister strode from the kitchen, where she was preparing dinner, into the bedroom to discover Liberty besmudged with lipstick and mascara. I could not see this from where I was sitting, but I could well imagine those olive-eyes rolling up to meet my sister's stare of chastisement. Evidently the baby had really colored herself. The spanking started and amidst the scolding and bewailing I heard Liberty declare, "I'm the boss of the dogs... I'm the boss of the dogs!"

This Halloween I had a little trick and treater who wanted to know if I had any "Butter Finger-nail" candy bars.

Serenity Home's next-door little neighbor, Jimmy Morehouse, was outof-doors playing with sand and water. His mother, Kathy, asked him what he was building. Came his prudent little reply........."A darn."

Student's Corner

As we begin our climb up the mountain, we are filled with questions regarding clairvoyance and enlightenment. Slowly progressing up that wonderous path, we learn all is answered within. We become aware of ourselves and the inner world.

One of the greatest blessings regarding Serenity Spiritualist Church is that it offers the honest seeker activity with others seeking spiritual growth. It is good to reach out a hand and help another up the mountain, as well as the gratitude one feels when the hand is extended to him. We give to each other, support each other; whether it be a message or just a kind word, it is a blessing shared.

In realizing that we are all students, it is comforting to know that there has never been a time when a sincere student of Truth has not drawn a teacher to him. From the beginning to eternity, the higher the aspiration, the higher the fulfillment.

Right activity employs the law of

right action. Therefore, our activity within the church and seeking Truth puts this law into action. We are lead by Supreme Intelligence or God to a better place, a more solid ground to protect us from the floods, pestilence and pain of the lower earth planes. Spiritually, we join hands and form a golden band climbing up that mountain, to the oh, so pure air where we entertain "angels unawares."

by Adelaide Helbig

Yesterday is already a dream and tomorrow is only a vision; but today, well lived, makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope.

-from the Sanskrit

"The key to wisdom is a quiet mind."

-W.O.

THE FUNDAMENTAL FACTS OF SPIRITUALISM

by A. Campbell Holms

The dishonest practioner is to be found in every community, without exception,

Haphazard attendances at public seances with professional mediums and promiscuous sitters should be avoided, for, apart from the possibility of deception on the part of the medium, unknown psychic influences may be present which may debase the phenomena and result in wrong conclusions. Those who desire reliable personal experience should, after some preliminary study, form a small home circle composed of congenial friends of the right sort who are known to be levelheaded, trustworthy and kindly in their thoughts. If the sittings are continued regularly over a sufficiently long period, the mediumship of one or more of the sitters will be developed and the patience of the circle finally rewarded by the occurence of phenomena, both mental and objective, which will increase in strength and importance. Rules for the conduct of such circles are given in the Appendix.

In the following pages a brief description is given of the major mediumistic phenomena. Some of these in the objective class are so exceedingly marvellous that many find difficulty in accepting their reality without personal experience. Unfortunately the higher phenomena of Spiritualism, although frequently seen in the past, are now very uncommon, so much so that they are usually difficult to witness,

except by the earnest student who is prepared to sacrifice both time and money.

The phenomena of Spiritualism are usually placed in two categories: the mental or subjective, and the physical or objective. Mental phenomena pertain to the mind; they include clairvoyance, prevision, psychometry, telepathy, etc. Physical phenomena are perceived by the senses, material or objective effects are produced: untouched objects are seen to move, luminous effects are seen in the dark, rapping noises, voices or music are heard, writing occurs on inaccessible papers, photographic plates are af fected supernormally, materialized hands and faces are seen in semidarkness, wounds or diseased tissues are suddenly healed, etc.

The majority of mediums produce only mental phenomena, some produce both kinds. Probably everyone has mediumistic faculties in a more or less latent state; in perhaps twenty per cent they are sufficiently active to be developed. The psychic faculties of most mediums are limited to certain types or groups of phenomena, and they may be quite unable to produce others.

The experiments of the early Spiritualists, from 1848 onwards, carried little weight with the scientific world. With a few notable exceptions, the scientists scoffed and refused to examine either the evidence or the alleged

Visitors Views

by Kay Hammel

Dear Editor:

Much to my surprise, I just received a gift copy of your new Sentinel Magazine How kind of you to remember a one-time visitor. Although my intent was to merely congratulate your Association for this fine publication, I'm moved to direct some comments to the Visitors Views columnist. Please advise her that any part of this letter may be published, for your entire Association should be made aware of their unique contribution to my life.

As a business man who deals with the public on a day-to-day basis, I found nothing wrong with my rather cynical (what I considered realistic) view of humanity. There wasn't much hope I'd decided long ago, in this "dog-eat-dog" world; therefore, I succumbed to apathy toward God and religion years ago Recently, I had occasion to visit friends in the Bay Area who took me to Serenity Church. Your church is delightfully pure Americana! I thought the only log cabins left were those restored in the eastern U.S. The charm of the edifice. however, is minute compared to the warmth, vibrancy, and apparent good will extended by the church workers. I was treated as a truly welcome guest



from the moment I crossed the threshold, given literature to read, and introduced to numerous people. There was no time that I felt left out of a conversation, though I was an obvious stranger. The Sunday I attended was one when various students lectured; I understand this is a regular procedure at Serenity. Would that more churches could use this format! It is hard to believe these students, some of whom are neophytes to Spiritualism, draw up neither formal presentations nor do they use notes as aids. I listened to the messages given with great interest and, although I received none myself, gained immeasurably hearing those given to others

May I give kudos to the Serenity Publications for all their works and to the church attendees—a very sincere "thank you" for helping to bring the Light into one man's narrow, jaded existence. God bless you all!!!

Sincerely, B. V. M.



BECOMING A SPIRITUALIST

Spiritualism: The Religion of Knowledge, Not Belief by H. Gordon Burroughs

Spiritualism is a science, a philosophy, a religion. It is a science because in its investigations it analyzes, segregates, and catalogues facts. It investigates thoroughly the law of nature which is the law of God. It does not accept assertions. The mere fact of someone's saying that a miracle had been performed or that certain conditions existed in a far-off day means nothing to the Spiritualist unless that same fact can be proved by present-day knowledge.

Spiritualism is the religion of knowing, not the religion of faith. We take nothing on faith; we must know. We do not believe that perhaps there is a subtle energy which rules, guides, and permeates this universe merely because religionists have told us and expected us to have belief in what was taught; but we know that there is such an energy or force because the scientists of the world have proved beyond a doubt that this force or energy exists. The more we investigate, the more we seek to know, are we confronted with the that there is an Infinite Intelligence which rules, guides, and directs this universe. We therefore accept the word of the scientist not because it has been preached but because it has been proved.

We have been told in the past that there was a heaven to which human beings might go after the change called death if they had lived the right sort of life. If they did not live rightly, according to creed and if they did not accept Jesus as the saving power of the individual, no matter what good they contributed to the universe or to the community in which they lived, they could not enjoy the beauty of a heavenly world.

The story has been told to us that heaven is a place four-square where the streets are of transparent gold, the gates of the temple of the city are studded with precious jewels, and there is a throne about which angels throng and sing hosannas to God. (This story, by the way, was never given to us by Jesus of Nazareth.) We wondered and we investigated, but the mighty telescopes of the world have never been able to locate this city; the airplanes have sailed many miles into the firmament but have never found this habitation.

We did feel, however, that there was survival. How did we arrive at this conclusion? Not because of religious faith, but because we recognize within the law of nature that nothing can possibly be destroyed; it can only change its form of manifestation. We have not believed in this continuity of life; we have accepted it as a truth. While we did not understand it or in what manner souls dwelt in everlastingness, we have not been ready to accept the theory of a heaven far-off. A place of absolute idleness would be a waste of God's great time in His vast universe; futhermore, it would grow very monotonous throughout eternity to sing songs and play harps. We love to

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL HEALING

I ask the great Unseen Healing Force
To remove all obstructions
From my mind and body
And to restore me to perfect health.
I ask this in all sincerity and honesty
And I will do my part.
I ask this great Unseen Healing Force
To help both present and absent ones
Who are in need of help
And to restore them to perfect health.
I put my trust
In the Love and Power of God.

Healing Hands

A healer is ofttimes referred to as one with the healing hands. This is as it seems to be but is it in truth all there is? I have heard so often over these past years statements made: "All a healer has to do is let the power flow," or "A healer has little to do with the flow, it is simply a gift of God."

How wrong and yet how right! These statements are but half truths.

There is a wise saying that you cannot get clear water through a rusty pipe. Healing mediums are duty bound to all those who come to them to constantly work and endeavor to purify their mental attitude and their form that this healing power may flow freely through them and on to those who have the greater need. Should this result in the healing power flowing through the hands, the spoken word or the eye, then indeed has the purpose of the healing channel been served.

It is the love and compassion of the healing medium that drives him on to ever higher goals and ever greater service to all life. Truly dedicated healers will do all within their power to help a person to be able to help himself so that in time that person too will be able to share his Godhood with



another.

The watchword is ever to help another to become independent of you rather than to become dependent upon you, then the soul-spirit has been touched and true spiritual healing accomplished. In this way we do indeed assist in lifting people out of spiritual dependency, which is in truth the breeding ground of spiritual cripples, on to higher realms of service and beauty of expression.

In the silence would I walk with thee. There would I adorn my thoughts with noble ideals. There would I develop and strengthen my character. In this silence geniuses are born. Out of the infinite depth of silence proceeds all that is. In the silence awe and reverence abide with me, the great wave of truth envelopes me and purifies my soul, urging me to scale the heights, and be glorified by the light that glows and plays forever above their summits.

Continued from Page 8

phenomena. The twentieth century, however, has seen an increasing number of European scientists who have devoted themselves to experimental work and written classic books describing it. As a result of their studies some of the best informed now admit the reality of practically all the varied mediumistic phenomena, which, for one hundred twenty years, Spiritualists have been urging the world to accept as true. It would seem therefore, that the day of triumph of these worthy pioneers is not far off.

Psychic research has established a great variety of extraordinary facts. The most momentous is that man is really a spirit, clothed temporarily in a material body. The spirit, which is, in fact, his ego, mind or personality, has a permanent etheric body or vehicle, interpenetrating the material body, of which it is a replica, and which it abandons at death. In its free state it is not entirely cut off from the material world, but in certain conditions can communicate with those still in earth life.

In accordance with the accepted electronic theory of the constitution of matter, the human body, like all other material objects, consists far more of empty spaces than of the electrons or molecules of which it is composed, so that there is ample room within it for an etheric body of even greater "solidity." And the same thing may be said of the entire material universe. For if it be admitted that the rapidly vibrating, exceedingly minute molecules or electrons which constitute matter only occupy about onebillionth of the space contained within its boundaries, there must be ample space within our apparently solid world for other worlds no less complex, which, because of their particular atomic or vibratory constitution, are entirely beyond our limited sense perceptions.

While enveloped by the material body a man's ego or spirit is unable freely to exercise its innate subliminal faculties, for in most of us our perceptions of outward things are limited to those communicated by our bodily sense organs. We cannot see, for instance, without eyes, nor feel without contact. Some few people, however, can use more or less imperfectly their subliminal faculties, or with bandaged eyes they can see objects near at hand or hundreds of miles away; they can obtain detailed knowledge of events happening at that moment in a far-off place, or discern accurately past and future events. While the spirit is in close association with the material body these transcendental or spiritual preceptions are supernormal and imperfect, but, ultimately, when freed from the body, they are normal and perfect. Only those known as "sensitives" or "mediums" can exercise these supernormal faculties.

"The greatest wealth an individual can have is not money, possessions, position, fame or power, but a kindly and humble heart, a good mind, an appreciation of the better things of life and a sense of humor."

—W. Peake

ACT

"Those who seek the crown must be willing to carry the cross." -W.O.



Serenity's office has recently moved to larger quarters. Our new address is 445 Sausalito Street, Corte Madera, Ca. 94925. The new telephone number is 924-4422. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who attended Serenity's house warming.

As usual our October dinner social provided enjoyment for all. The socials offer all spiritually minded people the opportunity to come together and share God's love in warm and friendly surroundings. One of the highlights of the socials is the delicious home cooking which is organized by the hands of Edie Faubel. Thank you ladies—one and all.

Registration is now underway for our Winter Quarter Spiritual Awareness Classes. The classes will start on the first Thursday of January and continue for 12 weeks. The student seeking to broaden his horizons will find the spiritual awareness classes to be most beneficial.

Serenity Association gratefully accepts donations of Blue Chip stamps.

Sunday, November 12th proved to be a very interesting church service, as we were privileged to receive a lecture from Rev. Clyde Dibble. We wish to thank Rev. Dibble for sharing his Spiritual understanding with us.

We wish to give a special thank you to Mrs. Pauline Leonard for all her support over the years in working for the Light of Serenity.

Our November 19th Sunday service was a memorial service for Gilbert D. Nelson. A Spiritualist for many years, we send him greetings of peace and joy.

Serenity's annual Holiday Harvest Bazaar will be held at the church on November 25th. We welcome everyone to come and enjoy the bazaar and our dinner social in the evening. The bazaar starts at 1:30 in the afternoon with many white elephant articles and many lovely hand made items. Delicious home cooked food and entertainment tops off the day with our dinner social. Everyone is invited to enjoy a beautiful day filled with the warm feeling of sharing with others.

The limited first edition of "The Living Light" is scheduled for release on the 27th of November. Don't forget to get your copy of "The Living Light," your opportunity of growing to gain your freedom.

Continued from Page 11

hear wonderful voices and symphonies, but if we had to listen to them forever it would grow very tiresome. We could not, therefore, think of this sort of monotony; so we began to investigate, for we wanted to know.

And how were we to know? In going back to the history of man and tracing his footsteps, we found that somewhere along the way since man stood upright and before he took on his present form of manifestation, through some means the Great Intelligence, which we call God, spoke to man through man himself, by means of prophets and seers. Some of them were crude and some of them we could not accept at all; but this was at least an approach. Man interpreted visions according to the light he then had.

Two thousand years ago a teacher came into the world, he who was known as Jesus of Nazareth. We are not interested in the manner of his birth. The fact remains that Jesus came; whether you accept him as a personal savior or not, or whether you accept him as a teacher or philosopher, the important thing is that he gave to the world very definite knowledge. Jesus never performed a miracle in all the days of his ministry. His miracles were not miracles, for a miracle is something that must deviate from the known laws of nature, and God's law is immutable; so Christ must have used natural law to produce socalled phenomena that were attributed to him. Since he worked in accordance with natural law, we can accept his demonstrations taking place according to natural law.

We believe that Christ healed the

blind, and we believe that he caused the lame to walk, the deaf to hear, because today these things are being done by means of the same law as that used by Jesus of Nazareth. We know that two angels appeared to Christ upon the Mount, not because the story is recorded, but because in the materializing seance we have seen angels appear to their loved ones upon this earth plane today.

Christ demonstrated his philosophy. If he had not returned after he was crucified, he would not have proved the continuity of life. Instead, as the crowning effort of his life, he materialized to his apostles after his crucifixion.

He told us much more: "If ye believe upon the things that I do, these things shall ye also do and greater than these." It is the business of every minister of every denomination to do these things; if he cannot, he is not demonstrating the precepts of his Master. We must know; Spiritualism is the religion of knowing.

We want to know something of the heavenly world to which we are going, and the only way we can have absolute knowledge is to talk with some one who has been there; so we make it a part of our religion and science to investigate, through mediumship, the nature of that other world. Much knowledge of that county has been brought to us; we are told that it is a world of reunion, a world of understanding, a world of constant endeavor, a world not of chanting and idleness but of labor, of doing. We are told of the influence upon us of those who have gone Beyond as we sojourn in this life and of the joys that they attain in watching over and guiding us.

3. When and where did Modern Spiritualism Originate?

In the village of Hydesville, New York State, on the 31st day of March, 1848.

4. What distinction is to be drawn between Universal Spiritualism, Ancient Spiritualism and Modern Spiritualism?

Spiritualists affirm, and truly, that many of the great leading principles of Spiritualism such as the existence of a supreme power, the value and efficacy of prayer, the belief in the continuity of life, the belief (in many cases, the knowledge) of the communication between mortals and spirits, existed in nearly all the great religions of the world when these religions originated. Certainly in Bible times (both Old and New Testament) many held these great leading principles and knew of the open door of communion between the two worlds.

5. Why is a distinction drawn between Modern and Ancient Spiritualism?

Because of the 31st of March, 1848, through the wonderful mediumship of the young daughters of the Fox family (9 and 11 years of age) a Code of Communication was established which opened up a wide door of inter-communion between mortals and spirits. And also because preceding and following this significant event there was a mighty outpouring of spirit power upon the world resulting in the development of a large number of Mediums all over America and the general

spread of the knowledge that life is continuous after death, and that communication between the mortal and the spirit realm is possible and actual.

6. If then Spiritualism holds principles and teachings common to other religions what reason is there for a Separate Religious body? Has Spiritualism Distinctive Principles of its own?

Most assuredly it has.

1. Spiritualism through Mediumship offers the world its only presentday demonstration of the Continuity of Life.

(Practically this is to most men a proof of Immortality since it seems impossible to doubt that man will survive any other great change that may be before him, if he can survive the change called death.)

Spiritualism furnishes, then, the only firm and stable foundation for Religion and Morality. It furnishes the highest possible motives for study, development and for a truly moral and spiritual life.

- 2. Spiritualism is the only Cult that not only affirms the fact of Mediumship but stands unequivocally for its cultivation and consecreated use in the instruction and uplift of the human race.
- 7. What objections do opponents of Mediumship urge against its Practice?

They say it is inimical to health, often leads to insanity and tends to immorality.

The Living Light

In this new book are the wonderful teachings of the Old Man, which were given as progressive lessons to a class in spiritual unfoldment through the mediumship of Richard P. Goodwin. It has been nine years since the beginning of the Old Man's instruction directly through trance-voice. Again and again we are introduced to a continuing and tantalizing series of new subjects, lovingly explained and carefully attuned to our understanding.

The Old Man (we are never told his name) is one known as a Teacher of Light. He is a fine teacher; in a hundred ways he intertwines his allegory, progressive explanation, unfolding exercises and timely references to reach many levels of individual minds. "Think more often and think more deeply," he tells us.

In "The Living Light," he makes clear that his lessons are not dogma, creed or a narrow way, but his beautiful form of instruction to aid us in our own individual progression "The Living Light" is unique, the first and fresh expression of the individual understanding of a Great Teacher from other dimensions understanding developed in him in centuries of study in higher * realms The lessons to be perceived are not new, they are very old, but they are alive and new to certain levels of our being. This is why they are given now, in our time, for those who seek. The way is not easy, but it is beautiful. In this book, gently taught in simple, direct language is a course of study, and continuous inspirational and directive reading, for the study of the unfoldment of the spirit and psychical awareness, the Divine spark in every man.

Selected Passages:

"Dreamer, dream a life of beauty before your dream starts dreaming you."
"As I came upon the mountain and felt the glory of my God, I looked about in wonder at the many paths I'd trod."

"Oh, Love divine, a servant be, till selfishness imprisons me."

"The Living Light" is invaluable, timely and meant for everyone

Order now your copy of the limited deluxe first edition "The Living Light" to be mailed to you upon publication November, 1972.

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FROM FIRE-MIST TO MAN

EVOLUTION SPIRITUALLY INTERPRETED

by Andrew Jackson Davis

Therefore, the human brain is not merely designed to move and direct the organism, but it has three grand uses and functions:

First: To receive the omnipresent moving essence of the Great Divine Spirit which resides in and is extracted from all elements and substances in universal nature—especially those substances which administer to the nourishment of the body, and to the gratification of its various internal and sensuous desires.

Second: To concentrate, refine, and elaborate this all-animating essence and to dispense it to appropriate parts of the dependent systems, according to its relative degree of refinement and progressive planes of manifestation. The first degree of this divine essence is termed Motion, the second is Life, and the third is Sensation.

Third: To give this Essence its germinal and indestructible organization, and to connect it with elements and substances in the outer world by which connection the brain is instrumental in the movement and government of the body-and to enable this interior organization of divine life in life in man to manifest intelligence in reference to itself and external things.

Every organ of the human body, being a perfect embodiment of iden-

tical organs which are but imperfectly possessed even by the highest order of animals, is pre-eminently calculated to fulfill the mission for which it was made.

I make this assertion with my mind fixed upon a well-developed and harmonious representative of the human species. I mean a beau-ideal Man; an aggregate of all known health and symmetry; a prophecy of the future population of the earth; a great and good being, full of strength and majesty!

For it is not true that every organ in the human body, as man is at present circumstanced, educated and conditioned, subserves the purpose of its creation. There are millions of individuals who have no conception of the use of their existence, consequently such live like animals, daily and hourly perverting the structure and functions of their organs—causing deformities, disease and misery.

It is to beget a higher conception of human usefulness, and of the Soul's sublime and exalted destiny, that I write these principles of truth; for when Man once fully realizes his innate power and glorious capabilities, I know there are no dungeons, nor sins, nor disease enough in all the earth to prevent him from walking forth Godlike in the Image of his Maker!

A GUIDE TO MEDIUMSHIP AND PSYCHICAL UNFOLDMENT

by E.W. & M.H. Wallis

Mind Must Interpret Mind

Vibrations are meaningless until they impinge upon and are cognized by the spirit behind the eye, the ear, the body. The engineer uses the machine-the man his physical instrument.

If communications are to pass between the people who dwell in the spiritual realm (and function on that plane through a spiritual or etheric body) and the dwellers on this outer plane of consciousness, there must be some intervening and uniting medium by means of which thoughts may pass, or other modes of manifestation may be employed. 'Spiritualism is the science of Life in all its conditions and modes of manifestation here and hereafter,' and the principal difficulty which had to be faced was the building of the psychic bridge into the unseen that our trains of thought might run right through.

The oneness, or unity, of Life is the first fact to be recognized.

The cause of organization is always Life. Means to the end are ever employed. Material conditions and agencies are all the time vitalized and utilized by in-dwelling Life, or governed and directed by Intelligence.

Forces of various kinds are controlled or manipulated by man, and, although unseen, are demonstrably real.

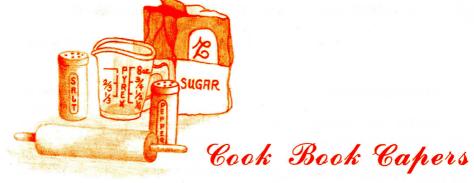
Mind is involved in all manifestations which indicate purpose, Phenomena which are the result of the play of forces that are clearly under the government of an intelligent operator can only be attributed to Intelligence.

The Intelligent Operator

Spiritualism has made us acquainted with phenomena-occurences upon the objective plane-in which force is evidently employed intelligently-that intelligence displaying knowledge, power, purpose, other than, and differing from, the possessions or intentions of any of the visible beings during their occurence. Upon inquiring of the operator who he is, and what is his object in producing the outward and visable signs of his existence, responses have been forthcoming in which the claim is made that he is a discarnate human being. In many instances test messages have been given in which evidence has been presented leading to the verification of that claim, and, as far as the circumstances of such intercourse admit, of the identification of the unseen operator.

It has been found that the presence of certain persons in indispensable, because they supply the peculiar 'etheric,' 'vital,' 'nervo-magnetic,' or 'psychic' force that is requisite as the intermediate agency.

To be continued in next issue.



by Edie Faubel

Our children all rush into the kutchen after school these days-the ovens send forth the most interesting aromas and Mom is busy baking and freezing goodies for the Holidays. Here are a few recipes to help fill out your menus. GOOD LUCK!!!

PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

Cream the next 4 ingredients:

1 c. margarine (2 cubes)

1 c. peanut butter (use best grade for best flavored cookies)

1 c. white sugar

1 c. brown sugar

Now add: 2 beaten eggs
2 tsp. baking soda
3 c. unsifted flour
1 tsp. vanilla

Chill for a few hours if possible. Roll in balls size of walnut. Press down in criss-cross pattern with table fork dipped in flour. Bake at 375 ° for approximately 10 minutes. (They burn easily.)

APPLE CRISP

8 apples, sliced (about 1 quart)
½ cup water
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup sugar
¾ cup flour
7 Tbsps. shortening

Butter a baking dish and fill with apples, water and cinnamon mixed. Work together remaining ingredients with fingertips until crumbly, spread over apple mixture. Bake uncovered at 400 ° for 30 minutes. Serve with whipped cream.

ZUCCHINI CASSEROLE

Connie Wood

Slice thin 3 medium zucchini. In 2 Tbs. oil (no water) cook 1 clove chopped garlic; add zucchini and cook. When zucchini is soft, mix 6 eggs, 1 small carton sour cream or cottage cheese and add to the zucchini. Put all in casserole (salt and pepper) and bake in 375 o oven for 30 minutes. Serve at once or can be eaten cold.

INVOCATION

With perfect faith in the power of spirit, we direct our thoughts in this hour of devotion to the great Oversoul of All knowing that every aspiration, every holy desire, will find fruition in our lives. With simple perfect faith we come with all our yearnings and aspirations, knowing they will be answered to the degree we harmoniously attune ourselves with nature's immutable laws. May all our heartaches, all our loneliness, all our despair be conquered as we grow in spiritual understanding from day to day. Teach us, O Dwellers in the Land Supernal, to bear with patience and fortitude the burdens and vexations of fleeting time and to accept all seeming disappointments as lessons in the development of our spiritual lives. May the work of bridging the chasm of death be so sweetly performed that pain may be transformed into joy and sorrow into peace and happiness. Amen.

Reading: Power of Spirits

How great the power of spirits! A host of invisible intelligences, exalted and wise, surround us everywhere. They cause men to purify their hearts and rectify their lives. They are everywhere, beside us, around us, above us. "Millions of spiritual Beings walk the earth unseen, both when we wake and when we sleep."

All these with ceaseless praise, by day and by night, behold the works of Infinite Intelligence and adore them. Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister to those who walk in the light and to save those who walk in darkness? Yea, the angels attend the pure in heart and surround them with a halo of light and melody.

They come to lead the weary pilgrims from the rude scenes of this life to the mansions of the blessed. They come to guide the erring one and win his heart. They breathe a holy calm into the wounded heart. The glory of their presence dissipates the darkness of this world.

Who are these angel ministers? They are the wise and good of every age, of every land, who come laden with love, to bless cheer and comfort sorrowing mankind. Under their loving tuition our spiritual senses may be unfolded so that they both appear and speak to us.

O! Angels of Light and Wisdom, we solicit your presence with us this day, that you may illumine our minds, quicken our understanding, warm our hearts and strengthen our adherence to truth. May your light drive away the mists of doubt and superstition from our minds so that the light of Divine Truth may be ours forever.

BENEDICTION

May the guidance of spirit loved ones illumine our minds, quicken our understanding and inspire us to live in accord with the dictates of truth. Amen.



Busy Bees

by Bonnie Droz

We are very grateful to see all the new people who have been coming in to help with our spiritual endeavors. Our buzzing Busy Bees are currently sewing Ragedy Ann and Andy dolls for our Holiday Harvest Bazaar on the 25th of November and for the Christmas Season.

We may be boasting, but boasting or not, we feel that our hard working Busy Bees are the best Many of our Serently Bees have been busily buzzing sewing Ragedy Ann and Andy dolls at home in their leisure time

Some of our loyal supporters and friendly Bees include Hazel Field, Margaret Arvold, Pauline Leonard, Diane Field, Eddie Fauble, and Barbara Murphy. We wish to express a great deal of thanks for all of Serenty's supporters for contributing all the beautiful materials for our dolls

Although it takes several weeks of hand sewing for a set of Ragedy Ann and Andy dolls, we are happy to say that our price for the dolls remains at only \$19.95 per set. Orders are now being mailed as far away as Tampa, Florida. Please note that our out of state orders for dolls include a \$3.00 postage and handling charge.

With all our mention of the work that is currently being done on the Ragedy Ann and Andy dolls we can't forget our lovely liquid embroidered tea towels. The beautiful tea towels will be displayed at Serenity's annual Holiday Harvest Bazaar along with other delicate handiwork. Any ladies wishing to contribute their talents in making something for our bazaar would be sincerely welcomed.

Last but certainly never least is our sincere expression of thanks for all the support from the Men's Club in helping us to meet our quota of 100 sets of Ragedy Ann and Andy dolls for the Christmas rush. A special thank you to Ron Cavender and Robert Paulson for all their valuable help on the dolls.

We welcome the new selfless workers to the Ladies Guild and Men's Club with a special note of thanks for their interest and support. Congratulations Robbie and Judy in finding the Light of spiritual truths with your selfless service.

Our buzzing Busy Bees meet each Wednesday evening at 7:30 alternately at my home and at the home of Mrs. Pauline Leonard A social hour of delicious refreshments and spiritual upliftment continues to be the predominant vibration of the willing workers who look forward each week to meeting and sharing their spiritual efforts.

MAN'S

FREEDOM

IS EQUAL TO HIS

THOUGHT,

HIS BONDAGE, HIS

DESIRE

SPIRITUALIST DICTIONARY

Ectoplasm:

A subtle living matter present in the physical body, primarily invisible but capable of assuming vaporous liquid or solid states and properties. It is extruded usually in the dark from the pores and the various orifices of the body, and is lightly luminous, the more so when condensed. The temperature of the room is usually lowered when ectoplasm is produced; it possesses a characteristic smell and is cold to the touch. This substance is held to be responsible for the production of all phenomena classed as 'physical', and is the substance out of which materialized forms are built by the spirit operators. In addition they build elastic or rigid rods to produce movement in objects (telekinesis), raps and noises; artificial 'voiceboxes' for the phenomena of the direct and independent voice. The levitation of tables and heavy objects is accomplished by building extensible columns under them. Hands have materialized, dipped themselves into molten wax and then dissolved, leaving perfect molds behind that are impossible of duplication by ordinary means. Solid balls of cold light are familiar manifestations in physical phenomena. Ectoplasm has been photographed on many occasions and appears opaque white by infra-red flashlight which is the usual method employed. Sudden exposure to white

light is of great physical danger to the medium when the ectoplasm is being used, due it seems to its swift elastic recoil as it returns to its source. In movement it can be swift or slow, it can build a perfect representation of a human body with pulse warmth and muscular movement. Dr. Dombrowski of the Polish S.P.R. had a sample analyzed in 1916 and to quote a summary of the bacteriological report: "The substance is albuminoid matter accompanied by fatty matter and cells found in the human organism. Starch and sugar, discoverable by Fehling's test, are absent."

Laws of Nature:

Contrary to what may be generally supposed, Spiritualists do not believe in miracles. All phenomena proceeds according to natural laws, the seemingly miraculous being supernormal, but not supernatural Some natural laws are as yet undiscovered, and therefore their working would seem to produce unnatural effects. The levitation of a table for instance, is not in defiance of natural law, it is merely supported on the top of an invisible pillar, through which its weight is transmitted to the floor beneath. This has been demonstrated by means of scales in the seance room.

GOD TOOK ME OVER THE MOUNTAIN by Dorothe L. Coyle

God took me over the mountain When I look back through the years. God helped me over the rough spots And took away my fears.

God took me over the mountain As I prayed for guidance each day. His plan was now revealed to me And then I could find my way.

God took me over the mountain As I humbly asked for His love He stilled the storm within me When I looked to Him above.

God took me over the mountain
Then, my restless murmurs ceased.
When I found happiness and contentment
Thinking in quietude thoughts of peace.

God took me over the mountain
And now I begin each day
As the within gently whispers
Acknowledge God-look up and pray.



Lest We Forget

Ansel Bailey
A. O'B. Bailey
Irene Bailey
Mrs. Bickford
Emmei Clark
Leia Clark
Lawrence Corri
Margerire Corri
Isabel Craig

Margaret Dabney
George Lincoln Droz
Harold Dutton

Harold Dutton
Eldon Easterday
Clara Faubel
Henry Faubel
Heinrich Frohlich
John F. Gillespie II

Troy Gillespie
Delores Pearl Goodwin

John F. Gillespie Ill

Harold Goodwin
Isa A. Goodwin

Esta Graham Sarah Graham Cecilia Harkness Thomas Hawley Emma Jones Tom Jones

Brig Gen Kabar Karimzad

Alexis Krivor
Clara Krivor
Nicholas Krivor
Yuan Leong
Frank J Manning
Anna Minerich
Edith Rogers
Sunny Ross
Jack Silvius
Dr. Barney Squar
Mr. Tuttle
Hugh Walker

James Walker Margaret L. Walker Robert Walker

Names listed in this column are a donation of one dollar per name in remembrance of loved ones who have passed to the higher life.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

- 1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.
- 2. We believe that the phenomena of nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.
- 3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith constitute true religion.
- 4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death
- 5. We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.
- 6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye also unto them."
- 7. We affirm the moral responsibility of the individual, and that he makes his own happiness or unhappiness as he obeys or disobeys Nature's physical and spiritual laws.
- 8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul here or hereafter.
- 9. We affirm that the Precept of Prophecy contained in the Bible is a Divine attribute proven through Mediumship.



There's a garden filled with flowers

Beautiful beyond compare
The sweetest blossoms on this earth
Grow and flourish there.
The soil is rich and fertile
And the gardners tender care
(For oh, he loves his flowers)

(For oh, he loves his flowers)
They are the loveliest anywhere.
And there's a garden filled with
flowers

Tho some may call them souls They grow and flourish just as well

As the daisy or the rose.

With love they do respond

And you can see

That they will reach toward the light

Throughout eternity.

-Dian Clair

As the dawn was breaking
O'er the land
God gave to us his command
To love and cherish
All Whom we meet
Through God we give
Our love complete.

-Audre Easterday

The Earth Harp by Arthur Rosch

The strings of the earth's lyre have sprouted a green sacrifice of love. The harp music of sun blessed growth fans into my heart a soothing air of peace. while the aches of my spirit's *yearning* are caressed by this sudden understanding. A hymn raises itself from the human soil. and the angel's song goes to greet it and lift it with the majesty of existence.

"It takes so little to make us glad, Just a cheering clasp of a friendly hand:

Just a word from one we can understand,

And we finish the task we long had planned

And we lose the doubt and the fear we had,

So little it takes to make us glad."

—Selected

THANKSGIVING SOLILOQUY

(WITH PROFOUND APOLOGY TO WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE-)

By Bee Dorbandt

To eat or not to eat. That is the question— Whether t'is better for the nerves to suffer The pangs and torment of an aching void, Or take steel with your host and groaning board, And by eating, end the dieter's lust; to eat and drink.

To eat and drink

No more . . . and by that fasting say we end the battle that the stomach and nerves is heir to. T'is a consummation devoutly to be wished. To eat—to diet?

To diet-perchance to lose. Ay, there's the rub, For in that diet what agonies may come When we have half-dislodged the stubborn thought of food Must give us pause.

There's the respect that makes Thanksgiving Dinner once a year a feast well worth waiting for.

For who would bear the pangs and torture of a diet and see our friends gorging all around.

The insolence of pity—the taunts of guests who having feasted, gorge again!

For one drumstick who would a diet bear.

Is it better to groan and sink beneath a load of pudding dreading that something lodged within from whose inner being No burp returns to console

Or sleepless and hungry lay at 2 a.m. puzzles the Will.

Thus Thanksgiving doth make cowards of us all, And the native hue of resolution Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of fear; that The scale may up a pound or two.

So gourmets and dieters come together this Thanksgiving Day and pray Your thanks that the Lord hath provided the Turkey Fast another day.



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EVER-RECURRING QUESTIONS

By Andrew Jackson Davis

CAN SPIRITS SEE MATERIAL OBJECTS?

QUESTION: "In some of your writings you have put forth this proposition: 'It is a law of Nature that Spiritual things are seen only by Spiritual eyes, and material things by material eyes.' Then, on page 174, Penetralia, you say: 'While the party entertained themselves in conversation concerning the diagrams that were hanging on the wall, we (Catherine and I) etc., etc.' Some persons seem to think the statement of Spirits seeing the diagrams 'on the wall,' contradicts the above proposition. Will you please explain?"

ANSWER: Simplicity in expression is a partial test of truth-not crudity nor flaunting extravagance of style-and yet, some truths are so fine, so exquisitely attenuated, that to treat them with simple words seems somewhat like dressing a divine and gentle spirit in homespun sackcloth. We must be speak attention, close and patient, to the brief explanation we have to give. It has been asked, — "Who can paint a sunbeam to the blind, Or make him feel a shadow with his mind?"

Still, it becomes necessary to

"paint a sunbeam," and to feel a shadow, in classifying and explaining the class of truths to which our correspondent refers.

Spirit eyes discern material and corporeal objects by means of the aura which emanates from the objects; that is, the eternal eye sees the rose through its fragrance and its qualities, a stone through its latent life-principle, a tree through its expanded life, a physical man through his animating soul, a diagram on the wall through the nervaura within the markings of the artist, (by which subtile principle a letter is psychometrized) and so on, throughout the whole empire of material forms, the Spiritual eye discerns physical bodies only through their Spiritual qualities, showing that spirit-sight is exactly the reverse of bodily-sight, just as matter is the opposite of mind; and yet, these exact opponents meet in one common center, as all extremes do and must

ANIMALS IN THE SPIRIT WORLD

QUESTION: "There seem to be contradictory accounts through mediums, concerning the existence and nonexistence of birds and animals in the Spirit World-some affirming, some denying Can you throw any light on this question?"

ANSWER: Almost all misunderstandings, even contradictions and animosities among men, arise from the use of the same words with different meanings If mankind could use language so judiciously that one word would always and everywhere stand for one meaning, the controversies of the world would quickly terminate, because at heart all men are the same as one man, with identical intuitions, and with similar likes and dislikes under similar circumstances. Joy and sorrow, happiness and misery-birth, growth, maturity, death-are common to all men everywhere. But men will use the same words with very dissimilar meanings, and thus, where there is no essential difference of conviction, they will quarrel with and hate each other.

In nothing has this confusion of tongues been worse confounded than in the revelations through mediums from the inner life. And yet in nothing is there more essential harmony and mutually supporting testimony. For example: An investigator, thinking of the Summer Land, will ask a medium, or a spirit through the medium, "Do you see any Birds and Animals?" The answer will be, perhaps, "Yes;" or, perhaps, "No;" and yet both statements are truthful Because what is the spirit world to one medium or spirit, in one particular state of mediumship, is not the spirit world to another in a different state. The words are used, by different persons, in different states, with very widely different meanings.

We have defined the "spirit world" as the boundless inner life, in which all physical planets, with their vegetation, and animals, and inhabitants. swim and revolve through space. Consequently, to spirit eyes all objects, both animate and still, are visible as parts of that inner life, or spirit world. Men, houses, villages, horses, cows, dogs, fruit trees, vegetation, the landscapes, etc., on this globe are all distinctly visible (in a new light) to every dweller of the Summer Land. Hence, in a certain sense, it is true to say that in the spirit world everything continues to be just as it was on earth. This was Swedenborg's gospel, and it is reaffirmed by hundreds now-a-days. But. remember, the spirit world is not the Second Sphere.

"....There is one problem, one only: to rediscover that there is a life of the spirit which is still higher than the life of the mind, the only one which satisfies man. This transcends the problem of religious life, which is only one form of it. And the life of the spirit begins there where an "integral" being is thought of over and above the materials which compose it."

-- Antoine de Saint-Exupery

A TRUE FRIEND——Is one who listens to all of your troubles, councils and advises. Does not become too emotionally involved......and keeps their mouth shut.

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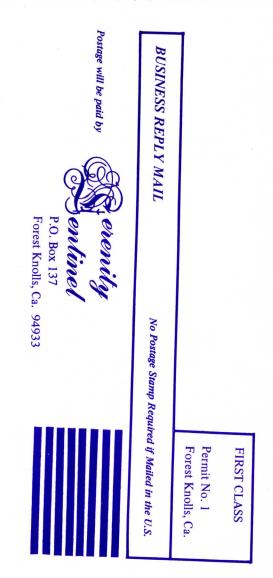
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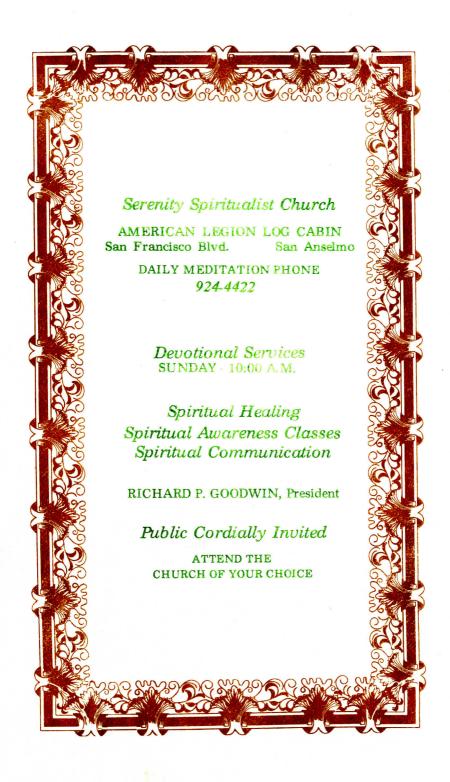
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and advises. Does not become too emotionally involved.....and keeps their mouth shut.

rom: name

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